

**MINUTES – HJR 17 Study Group Meeting  
March 11, 2013**

**1:30 – 3:30 pm**

**Division of Developmental Disability Services Fox Run Office  
2540 Wrangle Hill Road, Suite 200, Bear, DE 19701**

**Attendance:**

Rita Landgraf  
Aaron Goldstein, Esq.  
Bryce Hewlett  
Dr. Rich Bounds  
Susan Cycyk  
Jim Lafferty  
Brenda Pierce, Esq.  
Sarah Fishman, Esq.  
Ilona Kirshon, Esq.  
Dr. Neil Kaye  
William Weaver  
Meredith Stewart Tweedie, Esq.  
Rosanne Faust  
The Honorable Margaret Rose Henry  
Dr. Dyanne Simpson  
Dr. Harold Rosen  
The Honorable Jan Jurden  
Kevin Huckshorn  
Larry Lewis, Esq.  
Nicole Huggins  
Trish Hill  
Debra Crosson  
Dr. Robert Bernstein  
Gail Riblett  
Dr. Joshua Thomas-Acker  
Liz Proctor  
Deb Crosson

Kim Gomes  
Wayne Smith  
Christine Schiltz, Esq.  
Jill Fredel  
Cheryl Heiks  
Beth Miller

**Members Absent**

Dr. Ranga Ram  
Rep. Debra Heffernan  
Tim Lengkeek, Esq.  
Dr. Richard Kingsley  
Dr. Jon McGhee  
John McKenna  
Kyle Hodges  
William Mason  
Matt Stehl

- I. The meeting was called to order at approximately 1:30 p.m.
- II. The minutes from the February 12, 2013 meeting were approved unanimously with one correction from Susan Cycyk.
- III. Representatives from the Delaware Department of Justice presented draft legislation regarding the possession of deadly weapons by persons prohibited.

The proposed legislation is part of a 3-prong approach to address violence: (1) Reasonable restraint on assault weapons; (2) School resource officers; (3) Civil Gun relinquishment process for people with mental illness.

Issues: Physician-patient relationship; outdated commitment law; privacy concerns; possible changes to the commitment process.

There was a long discussion of the proposed legislation, much focused on the appropriateness of linking dangerousness to a mental health diagnosis; the physician-patient relationship; and existing laws.

- IV. Procedures and future meetings were briefly discussed. There are 4 subgroups and many Study Group members are on several or all of them. There are over-lapping issues, particularly when discussing definitions. It may make sense to merge 3 of the groups and leave operations separate. It is likely the final recommendation will be to combine Chapters 50 & 51. The Operations subgroup has been walking through the commitment process and are all learning about gaps and issues.
- V. There was no additional public comment.

VI. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:45 p.m.

Next meeting:

Tuesday, July 16, 2013, 9 – 11 am.

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